



Newsletter of the Chicago Tri-Club Association

◆ April 2024

## ● Sidney Wotman ●

It is with deep sadness, and a profound sense of loss that we report the passing of longtime member, Sidney Wotman. Sidney was a founding Shipwright, and a long-time member of the North Shore Deadeyes and Nautical Research Guild.



Without a doubt, the highpoint of his modeling career occurred during the Wisconsin Maritime Museum's Model Ships and Boats Contest in 2012. With his wife and son looking on, he won a Gold Medal for his *Charles W. Morgan*, a model it took numerous visits to Mystic Seaport, thousands of photos and 17 years to build. One of the more unique aspects of this magnificent piece is the plinth, which was taken from an actual section of salvaged "*Morgan*" planking!



Samuel Elliot Morrison once wrote: "It was a pretty conception that the sailor's spirit would wish to float out of harbor with the ebb, and once more survey familiar scenes – kelp marked ledges, foaming tide rips, circling seabirds, and friendly light-houses – before it left for another world."

So, we bid our shipmate farewell. May his seas be calm, and the wind always at his back ... Sidney Wotman will be greatly missed.

## April Tri-Club Meeting Schedule

### The NSD April Meeting



The April North Shore Deadeyes virtual meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 3rd at 7:00 PM. As of this writing, Rick Szydelko has not decided on a featured topic, but, no doubt, it'll be a good one. The ZOOM invite will be sent out a few days before the meeting. You will be able to log on as early as 6:30 PM.

### The NRMS April Meeting



For April, the Nautical Research and Model Ship Society meeting will be a hybrid session. The face to face segment will be held at 237 S. Lincoln Street, Westmont, IL. Kurt Van Dahm requests that those who plan to attend in person let him know so they can be accommodated.

For those preferring to attend the virtual version, an invite will be sent out a few days before the April 13th meeting. Proceedings start at 7:00 PM, but you will be able to log on as early 6:30 PM.

## The April Shipwright Gathering Bring Popcorn!



The Midwest Model Shipwrights return to action on April 17th. Its been three months since our last F2F meeting, so we should have a monster Ships on Deck for this one.

This meeting will feature films showcasing two magnificent models. One is the Dutch *William Rex* and the other is the English *Royal William*. Both are ships of the line, and are very impressive. At the other end of the spectrum, Gus Agustin will have his miniature of the *Royal William* on display for Ships on Deck. This should be a fun meeting! As usual, we will meet at



*The Dasom Community Church*  
501 S. Emerson Street  
Mount Prospect, IL





## *Royal William*

Scale: 16' = 1"  
by Gus Agustin





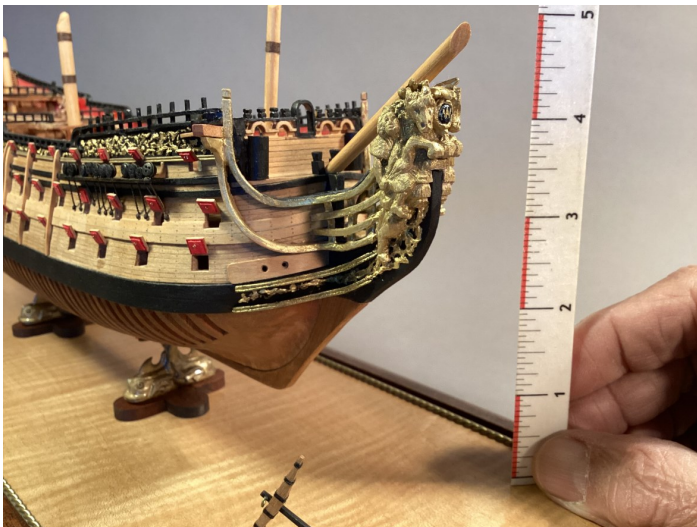


## *Royal William* by Gus Agustin



### Is it really that small?

Actually, Gus is messing with our minds. Although a miniature, the model isn't really that tiny. It's the nickel. The coin is a phony about 3" to 3 1/2" in diameter! It still looks pretty convincing, doesn't it? Now you know Agustin's secret!







# USS Constitution

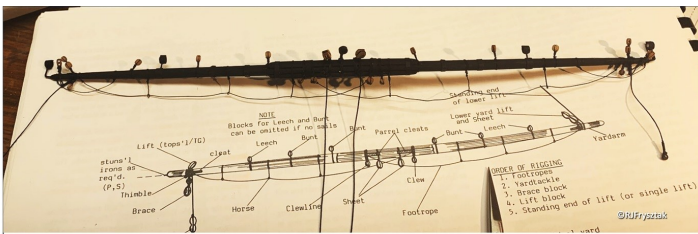
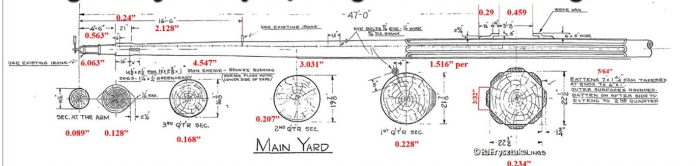
by Robert Frysztak



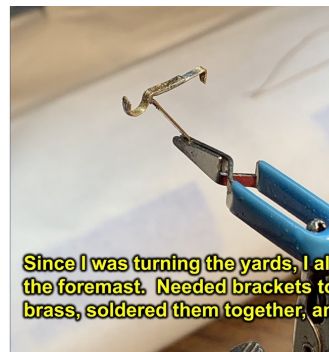
Since I finished up on the foremast (except for braces), I have moved back to hardware mode: I turned & finished the main yard, including battens, blocks, trusses, footropes, and stunsail hardware. I then turned the booms for the fore stunsails, and added brass mounting hardware. Carved all the entry boards and hammock crane boards. I tried carving the intricate eagle & anchor on the entry boards, but ended up using decals instead - much too small and intricate for me to carve. The mainsail bolt ropes, reef lines, cringles and other assorted attachment points were completed. Just about finished attaching to main yard using authentic roband knots. I should be attaching it to the mainmast soon.



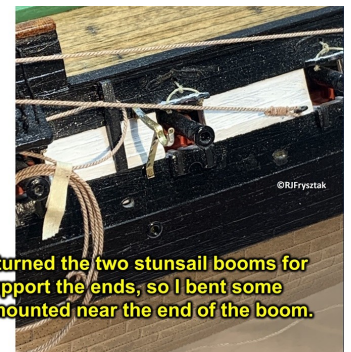
Turning of mainyard complete; adding all the battens and dogs.



Adding all the blocks, tackle, and footropes & horses. Yard is complete.



Since I was turning the yards, I also turned the two stunsail booms for the foremast. Needed brackets to support the ends, so I bent some brass, soldered them together, and mounted near the end of the boom.



Bracket painted, boom fitted with tackle and set in place. Will add ropes to secure it when ship is finished. Removing for now.



## *USS Dale DD-4*

by Bill Emerson

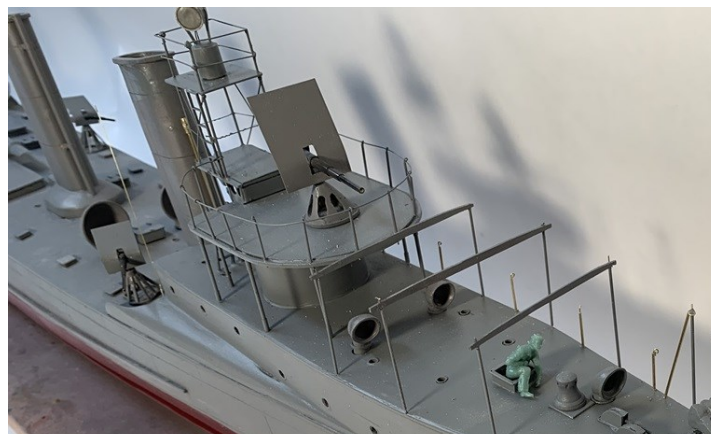
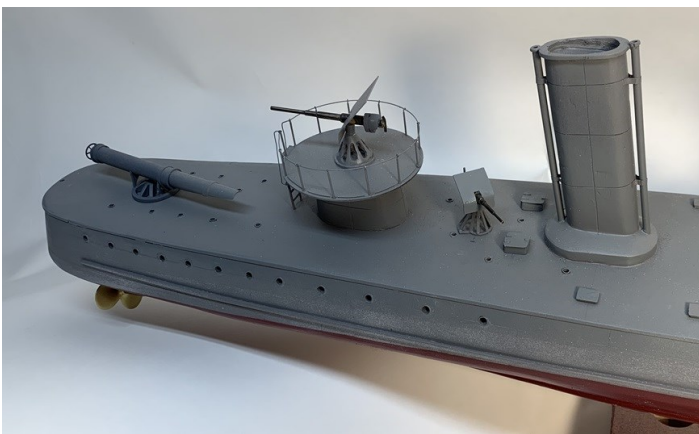
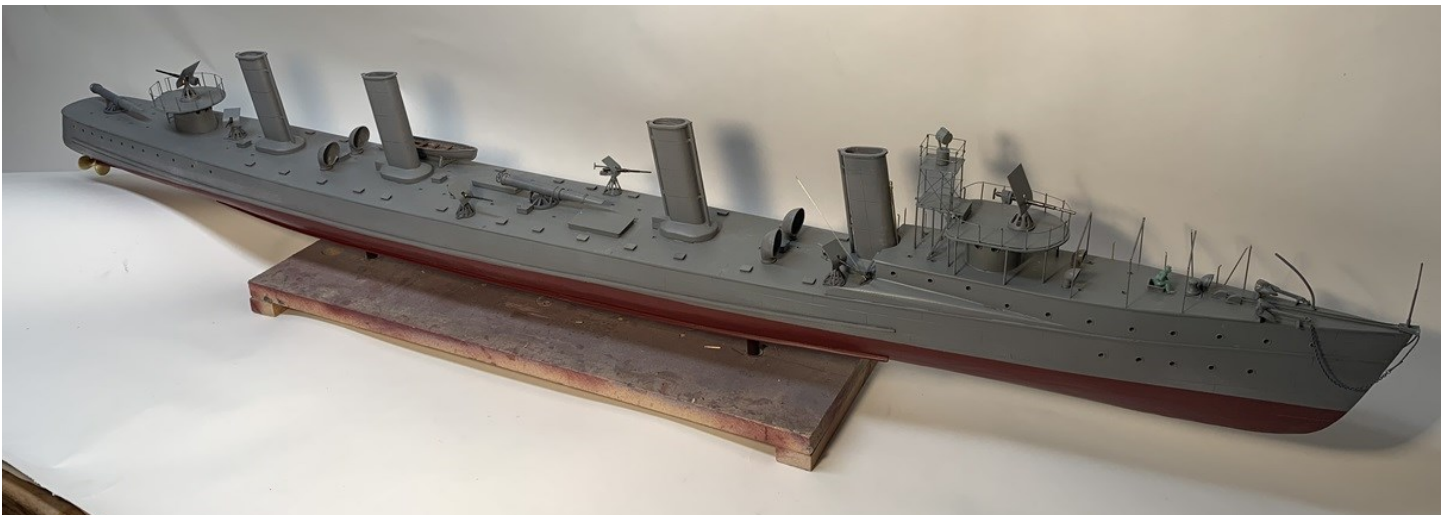
### Model Shipwrights of Western New York



After outfitting at Norfolk, *Dale* was commissioned on 13 February, 1903. Assigned to the North Atlantic Fleet, *Dale* was one of five destroyers comprising the First Torpedo Flotilla on the Atlantic coast, taking part in a fleet search problem conducted off Maine, and passing before President Roosevelt in review off Oyster Bay on 17 August, 1903. The First Torpedo Flotilla, convoyed by the auxiliary cruiser *Buffalo*, cleared Norfolk on 12 December, 1903 and sailed to the Asiatic Station by way of the Mediterranean and the Suez Canal. She arrived at Cavite, Philippine Islands, on 14 April, 1904. *Dale* then patrolled among the islands and along the coast of China until placed in reserve at Cavite on 5 December, 1905.

She recommissioned 10 July, 1907 and remained on duty with the Asiatic Fleet, cruising to Japan and China, engaging in torpedo and battle practice, guarding and inspecting the target range at Cavite, and transporting mail.

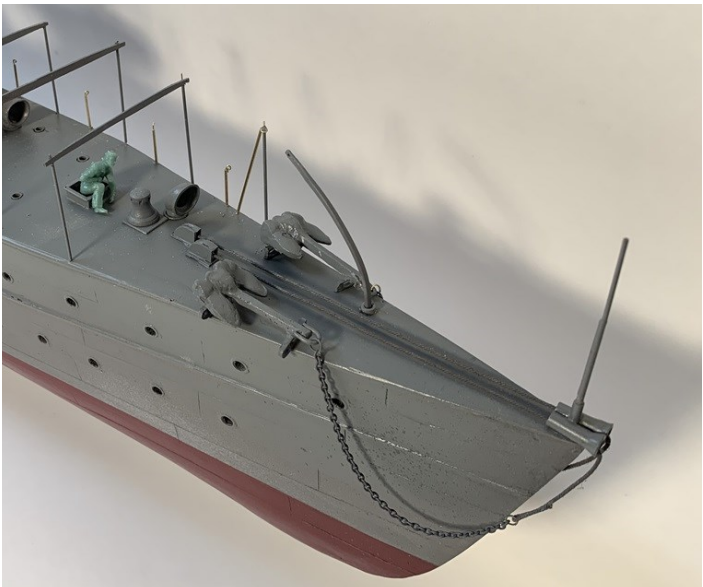
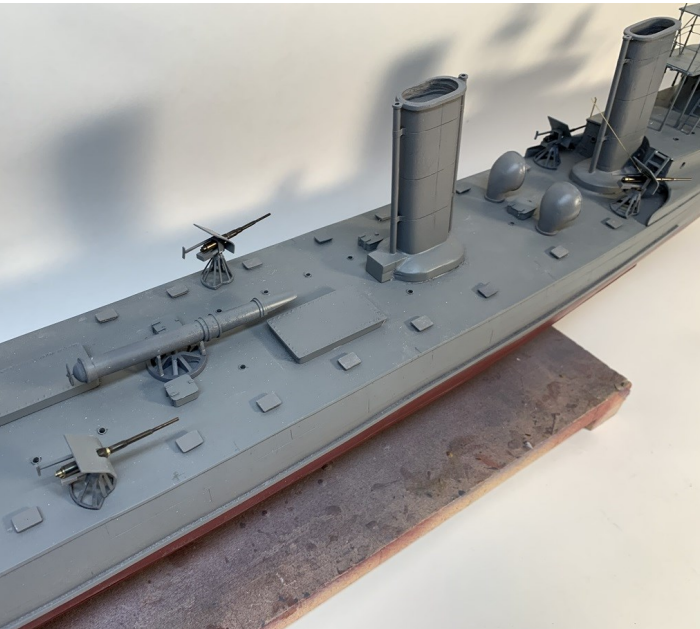
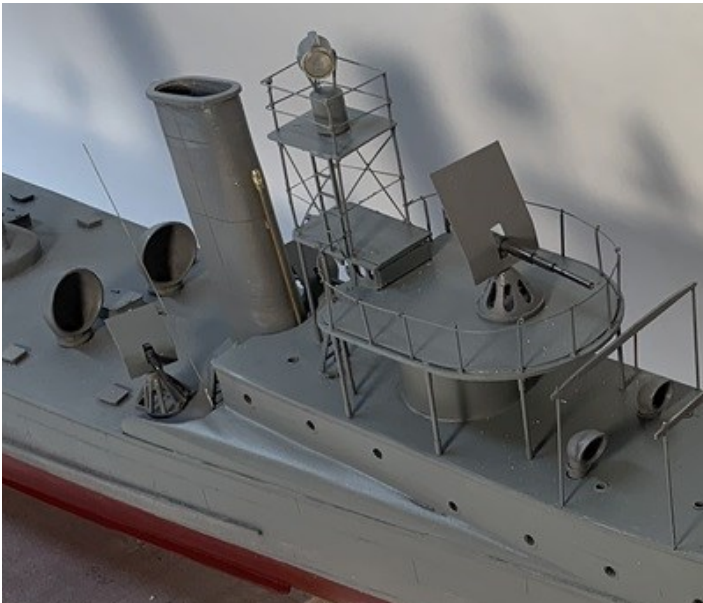
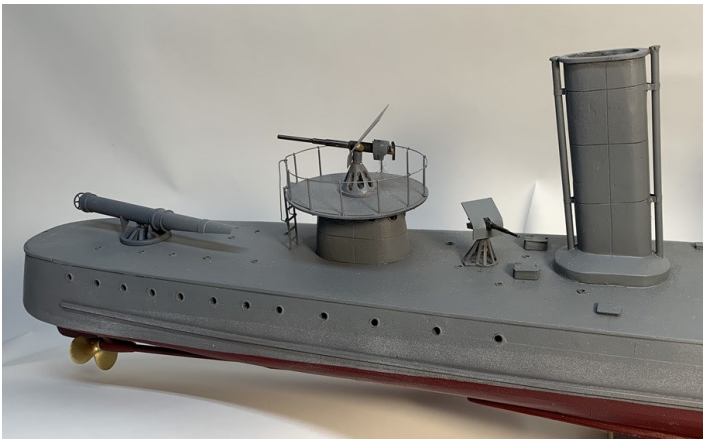
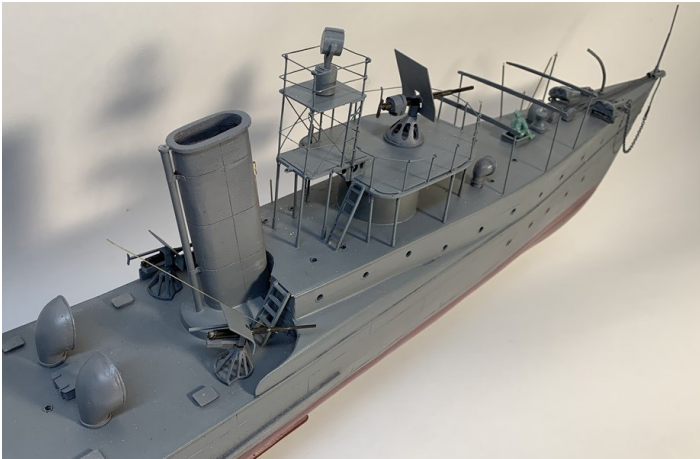
After the United States entered WWI, *Dale* patrolled the entrance to Manila Bay from 30 June to 1 August, 1917. She then joined the U.S. Patrol Squadrons based at Gibraltar, arriving on 20 October, 1917. She escorted convoys in the eastern Mediterranean until the end of the war. Departing Gibraltar on 8 December, 1918, *Dale* arrived at Charleston, S.C., 12 January, 1919. She was decommissioned at the Philadelphia Navy Yard on 9 July, 1919, and sold for scrap on 3 January, 1920..







*USS Dale DD-4*  
by Bill Emerson





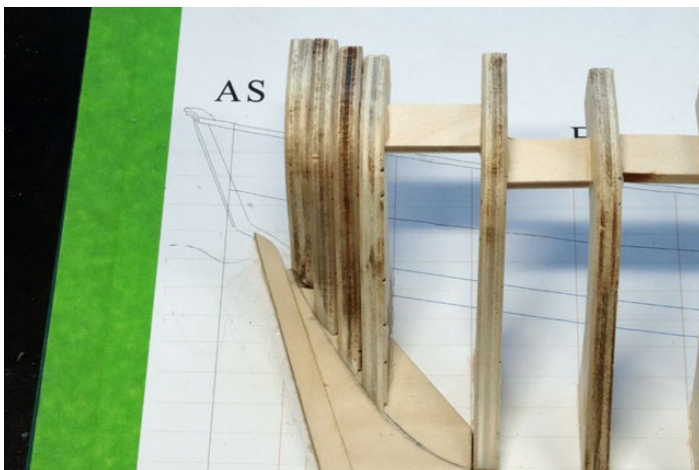
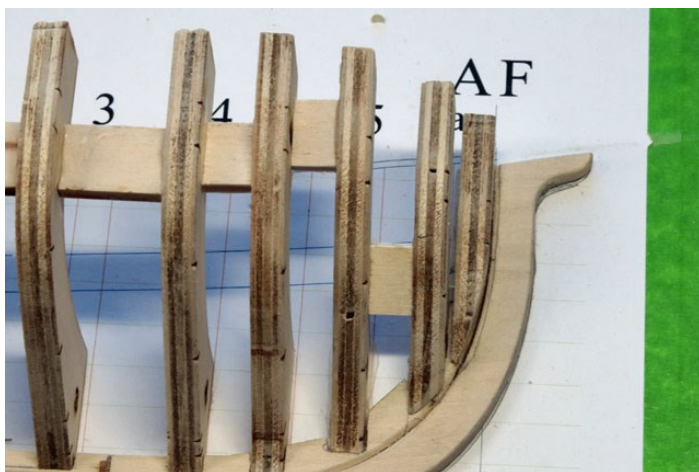
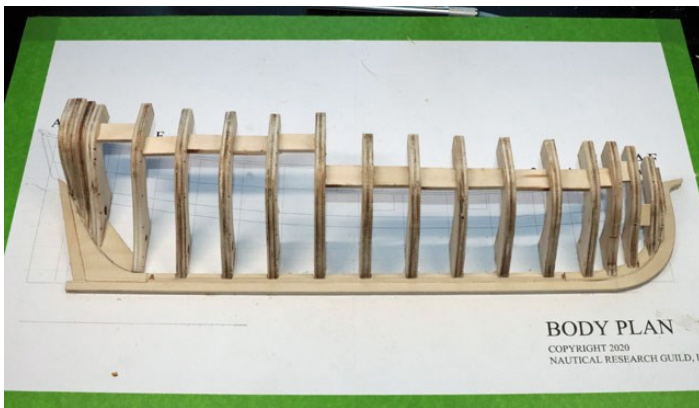


## *Items of Interest*



### **NRG Half Hull Planking Project By Dave Kupczyk**

Dave Kupczyk doesn't give up easily. This happens to be his second go-around at planking this NRG kit. It looks like he's going to be successful this time. Keep up the good work, mate!



**WISCONSIN  
MARITIME  
MUSEUM**  
AT MANITOWOC

### **Registration for the Midwestern Model Ships & Boats Contest is now open!**

Additional details on contest rules, hotels and a tentative event schedule are also available on the museum website.



### **Important dates for your calendar:**

**January 31** - Online & Mail-in Registration Open

**April 17th** - Cut Off Date for Hotel Room Block Registration

**May 1** - Closing Date for Contest Registration

**May 17-19** - Contest takes place at the Wisconsin Maritime



## • Tri-Club Anti-Piracy Policy •



Here is a list of banned companies that have been pirating and duplicating kits, books, and plans from reputable manufacturers.

Quite often these disreputable companies offer their products at what appear to be reasonable prices, but these items are often poor in quality. Many of them do not have websites. They market their illegal products via the Internet on sites such as eBay.

If you are contemplating your next project, please check this list. If you are not sure, discuss it with Kurt Van Dahm before you commit to a purchase. For easy reference, this information will appear in all future issues of the *Forecastle Report*.

**DryDock Models and Parts (Canada) selling for companies that pirate.**

<b>CN</b>	<b>ZHL</b>
<b>CF</b>	<b>RealTS</b>
<b>shi hai</b>	<b>Snail Model</b>
<b>4H Model</b>	<b>XinFeng</b>
<b>Moxing</b>	<b>Crown JD Model</b>
<b>Microcosm</b>	<b>JD Model LHQK</b>
<b>WN</b>	<b>Huasong</b>
<b>Jaocdoen</b>	<b>Shi Cheng</b>
<b>SC</b>	<b>woodenkit (Russian MFG)</b>
<b>DUJIAOSHOU</b>	<b>YengFan</b>
<b>LHQK</b>	<b>Unicorn Model</b>
<b>Master</b>	<b>YQ (YaunQing</b>
	<b>Modelship Dockyard (China)</b>



## Chicago Tri-Club Association Officers & Staff



NSD President - Rick Szydelko — [szydelko@sbcglobal.net](mailto:szydelko@sbcglobal.net)

NSD Vice President—Kurt Van Dahm — [modelshipyard237@gmail.com](mailto:modelshipyard237@gmail.com)

NSD Admiral Emeritus - Richard Williams—[shipdoc27@comcast.net](mailto:shipdoc27@comcast.net)

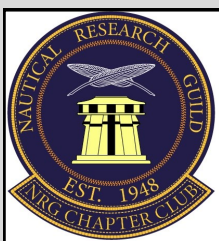
NSD Treasurer - Ed Urbanczyk—[turbaned@comcast.net](mailto:turbaned@comcast.net)

NRMS President – Kurt Van Dahm – [modelshipyard237@gmail.com](mailto:modelshipyard237@gmail.com)

NRMS Vice President - Richard Williams—[shipdoc27@comcast.net](mailto:shipdoc27@comcast.net)

NRMS Treasurer - Ed Urbanczyk—[turbaned@comcast.net](mailto:turbaned@comcast.net)

NRMS Secretary - Dan Cicero—[dan\\_cicero@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dan_cicero@sbcglobal.net)



MMS President - Bob Filipowski — [logline2@gmail.com](mailto:logline2@gmail.com)

MMS Vice President. - Bob Fryszak — [rfryszak@luc.edu](mailto:rfryszak@luc.edu)

MMS Treasurer - Rick Szydelko — [szydelko@sbcglobal.net](mailto:szydelko@sbcglobal.net)

MMS Secretary - Bob Sykes — (630) 766-6645

MMS Club Photographer: - Robert Fryszak — [rfryszak@luc.edu](mailto:rfryszak@luc.edu)

MMS Web Master - John Pocius...[jphydroplane@gmail.com](mailto:jphydroplane@gmail.com)

[www.midwestmodelshipwrights.com](http://www.midwestmodelshipwrights.com)

